

REMARKS

Claims 1 to 18 were pending when last examined. Applicant has canceled claim 1 and amended claims 2, 3, 5, 8, and 9. Claims 2 to 18 remain pending.

§ 103 Rejections

The Examiner rejected claims 1 to 5 and 8 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the cited references. To expedite prosecution and without conceding that the cited references make obvious claims 1 to 5 and 8, Applicant has canceled claim 1 and amended claims 2 to 5 and 8 to depend directly or indirectly from amended claim 9. As the Examiner indicated that claim 9 is patentable subject matter, then claims 2 to 5 and 8 are also now patentable subject matter.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner indicated that claims 6, 7, and 9 to 12 would be allowable if amended to independent form including all the limitations of their base claim and intervening claims. Applicant has amended claim 6 as indicated by the Examiner. Thus, amended claim 6 is now in condition for allowance. Claims 7 and 9 to 12 depend from claim 6 and they are also in condition for allowance.

Summary

In summary, claims 1 to 18 were pending in the above-identified application when last examined. Applicant has canceled claim 1 and amended claims 2, 3, 5, 8, and 9. For the above reasons, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to withdraw the claim rejections and allow claims 2 to 18. Should the Examiner have any questions, please call the undersigned at (408) 382-0480.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted prior to expiration of the set period of time by being transmitted via the Office electronic filing system in accordance with § 1.6(a) (4).

/David C Hsia/
Signature

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Date

Respectfully submitted,

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